REMARKS

Summary of Office Action

Claims 71-89 and 96-106 are pending.

Claims 71-89 and 96-106 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious from Petler U.S. Patent No. 6,081,519 (hereinafter, "Petler") in view of Amit U.S. Patent No. 7,127,734 (hereinafter, "Amit").

Claims 71-89 and 96-106 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious from Bushmitch et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,950,399 (hereinafter, "Bushmitch") in view of Amit.

With respect to dependent claims 72, 83, and 97, the Examiner has supported a previously-taken Official Notice with a citation to column 26 of Amit, and the table appearing in that column. With respect to dependent claims 77, 87, and 102, the Examiner has supported a previously-taken Official Notice with a citation to Jain U.S. Patent No. 4.608.685 (hereinafter, "Jain").

Summary of Telephone Interview

Applicants express their appreciation to Examiner Decker for the telephonic interview granted to applicants' undersigned representative on November 14, 2008. Applicants discussed the rejections of the independent claims 71, 82, and 96 with Examiner Decker. Applicants have amended each of the independent claims based on the substance of the interview with Examiner Decker.

Summary of Reply to Office Action

Applicants have amended independent claims 71, 82, and 96 by cancelling dependent claims 72, 83, and 97 and incorporating their respective subject matter into the independent claims from which each of these dependent claims depends.

Applicants have made these amendments in the interests of furthering prosecution of the above-captioned application. Nevertheless, applicants expressly

reserve the right to re-file each of the independent claims in its unamended form, respectively, in a continuation application.

Applicants have responded fully to the outstanding rejections. The rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 are respectfully traversed.

Conclusion

In conclusion, each of the independent claims 71, 82, and 96, as amended, is not shown or suggested by the cited prior art. Because each of the independent claims is not shown or suggested by the prior art, each of the dependent claims, which depends directly therefrom, are allowable as well. Applicants respectfully request the allowance of claims 71, 73-81, 82, 84-89 and 96, 98-106. Applicants respectfully anticipate a prompt and positive response.

Respectfully submitted,

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